

Feb'y 8.

Haddock, \$2 to \$2.60 per cwt.; large cod, \$4 to \$4.25; market cod, \$1.50 to \$3; hake, \$3 to \$5.50; cusk, \$2; pollock, \$3.

Portland Arrivals.

The following vessels were at Portland Friday with fares of fresh fish:
 Sch. Mary F. Sennett, 4000 pounds.
 Sch. Bernie and Bessie, 3500 pounds.
 Sch. Fannie Reed, 10,000 pounds.
 Sch. Lochinvar, 8000 pounds.
 Sch. Maud S., 4000 pounds.
 Sch. Fannie Hayden, 5000 pounds.
 Sch. Gem, 5000 pounds.
 Sch. Ella M. Doughty, 8000 pounds.
 Sch. Eva and Mildred, 5000 pounds.
 Sch. Albert D. Willard, 5000 pounds.
 Sloop Minerva, 4000 pounds.
 Sloop Isabel Parsons, 2000 pounds.

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OBJECTS TO TONNAGE TAX.

Nova Scotia Paper Believes It Injury, Not Benefit.

Nova Scotia papers generally fight shy of unmeasured remarks regarding their fish tariff differences with this country, but the agitation along some parts of the Nova Scotia coast to do away with the tonnage fee on our vessels, brings forth the following blunt talk on the matter from the Lunenburg, N. S., Progress:

"There is an agitation on foot to have the \$1.50 per ton license fee charged American fishing vessels re-fitting in Nova Scotia ports abolished. The more difficult the fishery is made for the Americans off the Nova Scotia coast the better. American vessels are notorious poaches and the profits made by merchants selling them supplies would be more than overbalanced by the depletion of our fisheries should more foreign vessels come this way. Besides there is a high American duty on Canadian fish. Until this is reduced the Americans should not be given any further privileges."

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Fisheries Treaty in Senate

Washington, Feb. 9.—The Newfoundland fisheries treaty between the United States and Great Britain was read in the senate and referred to the committee on foreign relations. It is likely that the treaty will be taken up at Wednesday's meeting of the committee.

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MAP SHOWS FISHING BANKS.

Secretary Dimick Has Chart at Boston Fish Bureau.

In some ways the most attractive exhibit in the Boston Fish Bureau's rooms on Long wharf is a large map of the fishing banks of the North Atlantic, drawn in colors by Secretary Frederick F. Dimick.

This map large as a bed sheet, shows where the fishing fleet makes its hauls from the mackerel grounds south of Cape Hatteras to the grand banks of Newfoundland, where cod and halibut are taken, thence northward to the Bay of Islands, 780 miles from Boston and in Newfoundland's jurisdiction, where vessels secure frozen herring and run risk of being frozen in for months, while procuring cargo.

Georges banks, 100 miles east of Cape Cod, also is delineated, while Le Have, off the coast of Nova Scotia, Cash's off Portland, Me., Stelwagen at the entrance of Massachusetts bay, Middle bank off Cape Ann, South channel, between Cape Cod, Nantucket and Georges, all have their locality and bearings accurately arranged.

This map with its accompanying table of distances, has settled many disputes as to where fish brought to T wharf are caught.

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SOME GOOD FARES LANDED.

Market Fleet Looking for Set if Weather Moderates.

Seven of the off shore fleet are at Boston this morning with fares of from 30,000 to 72,000 pounds, sch. Gos-sip, Capt. Miles Somers, being high line with the latter amount.

Sch. Flora S. Nickerson, Capt. Jethro Nickerson, out only four days, has a fine fare, 62,000 pounds, almost all haddock.

Four of the market boats are also in all but one, sch. Nokomis with 14,000 pounds of cod, having small fares.

Shore prices are good, but off shore haddock are low. Codfish, cusk and hake are bringing good figures all around.

It is blowing quite a good breeze from the northwest outside today, but many of the boats went out early looking for a chance to set if it should moderate. Quite a number, however, remained in port.

Frozen Herring Trade.

Frozen herring are going slow at Philadelphia, while at New York the trade can barely be called fair. Sch. Fannie A. Smith will finish up there this week. Sch. Hiram Lowell is on the way there with her part cargo and sch. Saladin will be the next vessel to go there with her cargo. At Boston trade is also dull, sch. Oriole having 100,000 pounds left in her Monday morning.

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HAD BAD WEATHER.

Fishermen Arriving at Boston Report Severe Gales.

Half a dozen of the off shore haddockers which arrived at Boston Sunday, report terrific weather at sea the past three weeks.

Sch. Fannie Belle Atwood had her jib blown to pieces in Saturday night's gale and was obliged to scud under bare poles for several hours.

Sch. Mary T. Fallon encountered the full force of the gale, her captain reporting the wind 60 miles an hour.

Sch. John J. Fallon reported weather so bad that she only had three sets in three weeks.

Fishing Facts and Fancies.

The fishermen of North Cape Breton always look for a good catch late in the season to balance the losses and drawbacks of the year. At Ingonish and New Haven all previous records have been broken, one boat recently took 40 quintals in one day.

The report that Capt. Marion Perry will not command sch. Rose Dorothea of Provincetown this year is erroneous. Capt. Perry has purchased a quarter interest in the vessel and will continue in command as heretofore.

The barkentine Gaspe, sailed recently from Halifax, N. S., with 4287 drums of dry fish for Santos, Brazil. The cargo is valued at \$30,995.

A Stratford, Conn., fisherman, who claims the title of "champion eel skinner of the world," has retired at the age of 60 years after skinning 500,000 eels.

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Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Kernwood was at Shelburne, N. S., recently with 50,000 pounds of fresh fish.

Sch. Selma, which arrived Monday, reports loss of 50 fathoms of cable. Capt. Colson reported heavy weather.

Steamer Pet, from this port, has arrived at Portland and will now engage in dredging scallops in Rockland bay.

Sch. Mary E. Sinnett put into Portland recently with main boom broken. Sch. Georgianna also carried away another main boom on her recent trip.

Sch. Seaconnet is having a new mainmast stepped at Burnham's shears.

Capt. Nels Larson is fitting sch. Wm. H. Rider for Georges handlining.

Sch. Ella G. King will fit for Georges handlining under command of Capt. Benj. Johnson.

Capt. Andrew Gorvneau will sail Georges handlining today in sch. William H. Moody.

Sch. Arthur D. Story is being put in readiness for Georges handlining and Capt. William Sloan who will command her, will begin to fit out a little later.

Sch. Slade Gorton will sail haddocking today under command of Capt. Burns Firth, her regular skipper, Capt. George E. Heckman remaining ashore.

Sch. Lucania will sail haddocking this afternoon in command of Capt. William Firth. Capt. Martin L. Welch, her regular skipper, remaining ashore.

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EARLY START OF THE SPRING FLEET.

FEBRUARY FITTINGS FOR SOME OF THE SALT PANK Vessels.

SEINING SKIPPERS AL- READY OVERHAULING THEIR TWINE.

It looks very favorable here for an early spring awakening of the fishing fleets. It is generally thought that quite a few of the salt bankers will make February starts and that the early part of March will see many on their way. Some of the seiners also have figured it out that on account of the way the "darks" come in March, they have got to go either quite early or somewhat late, and quite a number have been looking over their seines.

All around the harbor front activity in the way of putting up topmasts and overhauling rigging can be noted, and these are sure signs that firms and skippers are turning their minds from Bay of Islands and herring and haddocking, to mackerel and salt cod.

Several of the Georges handliners are already fitting away, three having been on the ways within a week to slick up.

For the salt bankers, Capt. Clayton Morrissey, the high liner, who commands the big knockabout Arethusa, has sent word that he intends to go early, and "early" with him surely means February. One starts the whole fleet, generally speaking, so if Capt. Morrissey starts in early to fit, there will be lots of other smart chaps right close after him.

Already the chief topic of conversation among the haddockers is, "Who are you going south with?" And then somebody will spring, "Have you heard when Morgan is coming up from Old Virginia?" Then some other fellow will say, "Has anybody heard from Wallace Parsons? wonder if he has written to anybody to ship a gang." All of which means sure that the boys are getting the seining fever.

Capt. John F. Vautier, in sch. Monarch, is scheduled for a start about March 10, and if he starts to fit out, why there will be others.

Gloucester's spring opening is at hand; signs of it are in the air, and everywhere that fishermen do congregate.

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FISHING BY TELEPHONE.

Microphone Even Tells What Kind of Fish Approaches.

A use for the telephone in fishing has just been invented in Norway.

A microphone, the role of which consists in amplifying submarine sounds, is shut up in a thin, watertight steel box and kept in constant communication by metallic wires with a telephonic receiver installed on the fishing boat. It is stated that with this apparatus the fisherman is always informed of the approach of fish.

Moreover, it is said that each kind of fish gives in the instrument a particular sound. Thus the arrival of herring is signalized by a sort of whistling; the codfish announces its arrival in the neighborhood by a sort of grunting.

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GOOD WEEK'S WORK.

Crew of Sch. Little Fanny Each Made \$75 Last Week.

A big week's fishing was that secured by sch. Little Fanny, Capt. Charles Nelson, of this port, last week. The crew of the little craft made only three sets of the trawls, each set constituting a trip, and landed at Boston. Every man of the crew got \$75 clear for his week's work which is certainly extra fine work.

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THE CANADIAN COAST FISHERIES, HALIFAX BOARD OF TRADE SHOWS CONDITION IN RECENT PAMPHLET.

BUSINESS RETROGRADING AS RESULT OF UNENFORCED LAWS.

The fisheries committee of the Halifax Board of Trade has just issued a large pamphlet dealing with the conditions and needs of Canada's Atlantic coast fisheries, which makes very interesting reading indeed, as the home fisheries are not spared in the least and the actual state of affairs is clearly stated in the plainest terms. The object of the pamphlet is evidently to aid the idea of a fishery board for the proper preservation, protection and development of the fishing industry.

The following extracts from the pamphlet will make interesting reading here:

"While other countries have adopted a progressive policy for their fisheries, Canadians have been and apparently are content to allow this great natural asset to remain neglected, burdened with unkept laws and regulations, and without any progressive educative policy, such as has been applied to our other great natural resources. The result is that our fisheries are retrograding, our fishing population is depleted, and a general demoralization is found in practically every branch of the industry."

"It is useless to turn to the official returns as given in the annual blue book issued by the department of Marine and fisheries, as these are acknowledged, even by the department officers themselves, to be so inaccurate as to be practically useless. The returns are not merely mostly guesswork, but in some instances, show such gross exaggeration that it is impossible to accept them as indicating even approximately the true value of the product."

"It is generally admitted that the catch of fish in Eastern Canada as dried for export, has been steadily diminishing. The year 1907 saw some forty sail less engaged in the bank and bay fisheries out of Lunenburg than in 1906, and this year (1909) shows no improvement. Every sail less in our banking fleet means a loss of at least twenty men to the industry, and these men, not finding other employment at home, emigrate to the United States and the west."

"The chief reason for this decline is the increasing difficulty experienced by the fishermen in securing the necessary supply of bait."

"It is in the handling of pickled fish, however, that the utmost necessity can be shown for the adoption of better methods."

"A large part of the mackerel catch of Nova Scotia is 'jumped' into herring barrels, resulting in loss of weight, deterioration of the fish, and a shrinkage in value of the product of anywhere from \$1.00 to \$4.00 per barrel. The lack of uniformity in the pack of herring as regards the package, quality and weight in the barrels, is too well known to need further elaboration. Standard packages should be established."

"As things are now, the pickled fish trade, both domestic and foreign, is in a state of stagnation caused by the uncertainty of the buyer as to what he is likely to get when he buys Canadian pickled fish, together with the fact that he knows that, even if the weight and quality are all right, he is liable to a heavy loss owing to the wretched packages."

"There is no question that our dwindling and demoralized pickled fish trade can be put on the same satisfactory basis as exists in European countries, if we adopt an educative and progressive policy such as is in force in Scotland under the board system of 'regulation.'"

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High Line Fishermen.

Capt. Frank Cooney, a former Gloucester boy, son of Capt. Frank Cooney, is high line of the Pensacola, Fla., red snapper fleet to date, having rolled up a big stock. He was formerly in command of sch. Caviare, but now has a fine new gasoline auxiliary craft.

Today's Receipts.

Sch. George E. Lane, Jr., shore.
Sch. Edith Silveira, shore.
Sch. Flora J. Sears, shore.
Sch. Maud F. Silva, shore.
Sch. Emily Sears, shore.
Sch. Juniata, shore.
Sch. Manomet, shore.
Sch. Massasoit, shore.
Sch. Ida M. Silva, shore.
Sch. Moanam, via Boston.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. W. H. Moody, Georges.
Sch. Ramona, haddocking.
Sch. Walter P. Goulart, haddocking.
Sch. Frances P. Mesquita, haddocking.
Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, haddocking.
Sch. Clara G. Silva, haddocking.
Sch. Mary Edith, haddocking.
Sch. Emily Sears, haddocking.
Sch. Rita A. Viator, haddocking.
Sch. Emily Cooney, haddocking.
Sch. Mary E. Enos, haddocking.
Sch. Mettacommet, haddocking.
Sch. Hope, haddocking.
Sch. Flavilla, haddocking.
Sch. Thomas A. Cromwell, haddocking.

Sch. James W. Parker, haddocking.
Sch. Slade Gorton, haddocking.
Sch. Margaret Dillon, Boston.
Sch. John M. Keen, haddocking.
Sch. Ethel B. Penney, haddocking.
Sch. Washakie, haddocking.
Sch. Rebecca, haddocking.
Sch. Teresa and Alice, haddocking.
Sch. Leo, haddocking.
Sch. Victor and Ethan, haddocking.
Sch. Mary B. Greer haddocking.
Sch. Valentinna, haddocking.

Today's Fish Market.

Salt Georges cod, large, \$4; mediums, \$3.00.

Bank halibut, 11 cts. per lb. for white and 9 cts. for gray.

Salt pollock, \$1.50; salt haddock, \$1.50.

Eastern salt shack trip cod, \$3.25 per cwt. for large and \$3 for markets.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$1.75; mediums, \$1.37-1-2; Eastern cod, large \$1.75; medium, \$1.37 1-2; cusk, \$1.60 for large, \$1.10 for medium and 50 cts. for snappers; haddock, 80 cts.; hake, 75 cts.; pollock, 70 cts.

Eastern deck handline cod, \$4 for large and \$3 for medium.

Shore frozen herring, for bait, \$2.00 to \$2.50 per cwt.

Newfoundland frozen herring, for bait, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per cwt.

Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Mabel Bryson, 5000 cod.
Sch. Terra Nova, 20,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 8000 hake, 7000 cusk, 2000 pollock.
Sch. Onato, 44,000 haddock, 7000 cod, 300 halibut.
Sch. Harmony, 20,000 haddock, 10,000 cod.

Sch. Flora S. Nickerson, 52,000 haddock, 10,000 cod.

Sch. Margaret Dillon, 4000 haddock, 2000 cod, 500 hake.

Sch. Nokomis, 500 haddock, 14,000 cod, 500 cusk.

Sch. Alice M. Guthrie, 40,000 haddock, 5000 cod, 5000 pollock.

Sch. Conqueror, 45,000 haddock, 5000 cod, 5000 hake.

Sch. Olive F. Hutchins.

Sch. Gossip, 40,000 haddock, 20,000 cod, 7000 cusk, 5000 pollock.

Haddock, \$1.50 to \$3.25 per cwt.; large cod, \$4; market cod, \$2; cusk, \$2; pollock, \$3.

Portland Arrivals.

The following fishing arrivals were reported at Portland on Saturday.

Sch. Margie Turner, 4000 pounds fresh fish.

Sch. Albert W. Black, 14,000 pounds.

Sch. Crusade, 5000 pounds.

Sch. Defender, 4000 pounds.

Sch. Nellie Dixon, fare not reported.

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The Advocate says:

"It began inauspiciously with bay ground fishing paying smaller returns than commonly, and continued unusually unfruitful straight through the twelve months. Weirmen, anchor and drift-netters and the very large body of dory trawlers were all quite hard hit."

"Not much was expected of the mackerel species in nearby waters, and mackerel did not agreeably surprise the fishermen by unexpectedly arriving."

"A big pollock 'run' was confidently looked for, however, but, for some unfathomable reason, that low-priced, but readily marketable species, numerically called abundant for several seasons hereabout, hardly gave Provincetown a 'look in.'"

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THE PROVINCETOWN FLEET.

Some Good Shares Made During the Season of 1908.

The Provincetown fresh fish fleet as a whole, did well during the season which has just closed. The following crew shares, for the past season, are reported for the leading crafts:

Sch. Mary C. Santos.....\$950.50
Sch. Louise C. Cabral..... 707.59
Sch. Jessie Costa..... 687.50
Sch. Louisa R. Silva..... 537.92
Sch. Phillip Manta..... 537.73
Sch. Rose Dorothea..... 536.10
Sch. Mary E. Silverios..... 437.50
Sch. Gov. Russell..... 432.23
Sch. Annie Perry..... 401.92
Sch. Nettie Franklin..... 287.06
Sch. Arbitrator..... 276.10
Sch. Amelia Enos..... 269.05
Sch. Harvester..... 235.69
Sch. Julia Costa..... 112.00
Sch. V. A. Morse..... 525.00
Sch. J. P. Johnson..... 287.00
Sch. Rose Cabral..... 315.00

The Provincetown Advocate, in its annual resume of the fisheries of that port, says that the season of 1908 was one of the leanest in the fishing line experienced by the mass of the fishermen of that town for a generation.

"Herring of the true kind sent only thin-ranked schools to our harbor. Of whiting there was sufficiency."

"The scanty earnings of the weir-men came mainly from the capture and sale of least prized fishes."

"To insure good results all along the line, a fair yield of mackerel, herring, flat fish and cod within bay and harbor limits are required."

The Provincetown fresh fishing fleet is making ready for its season's work and most of the vessels will sail this week. The following-named crafts will comprise the fleet from that town during 1909:

Sch. Annie Perry, Capt. Manuel C. Santos.

Sch. Arbitrator, Capt. Antoine C. Silva.

Sch. Emelia Enos, Capt. William Enos.

Sch. Frances V. Silva, Capt. Joseph Paine.

Sch. Gov. Russell, Capt. Joseph Bragg.

Sch. Harvester, Capt. Manuel Ventura.

Sch. Jessie Costa, Capt. Manuel Costa.

Sch. Jos. P. Johnson, Capt. John G. Silva.

Sch. Louise C. Cabral, Capt. John Field.

Sch. Louisa R. Silva, Capt. Joseph S. Silva.

Sch. Mary C. Santos, Capt. Manuel Santos.

Sch. Mary E. Silveira, Capt. Joseph Cabral.

Sch. Matchless, Capt. Frank Gasple.

Sch. Nettie Franklin, Capt. Antoine Silva.

Sch. Philip P. Manta, Capt. Antonio King.

Sch. Rose Cabral, Capt. Bartholomew Raimos.

Sch. Rose Dorothea, Capt. unknown.

Sch. William A. Morse, Capt. Antoine White.

Feb'y 10.

GUIDED BY HEARING.

Fish in Depths of Sea Have Little Use for Eyesight.

Fish that inhabit the depths of the sea beyond the penetration of daylight depend largely in their search for prey on the senses of hearing and smell. One would think they would have no use for eyes at all; but nature has provided some of them with organs for the emission of phosphorescent light, and in some cases the eye itself performs the double service of illumination and vision. There is thus a feeble light in those gloomy depths.

An examination of the brains of some of these creatures made recently in Germany by Dr. Trojan shows that the conformation of this organ, as well as the distribution of nerves, favors the senses of smell and hearing. The feeble development of the optic lobes and nerves indicates that vision is imperfect, while the powerful olfactory and auditory nerves, the huge "ear-stones" and the size of the corresponding brain centers show what a preponderant part is played by sounds and smells in the mental life, if such it can be called, of dwellers in the marine abysses.—Marine Journal.